

REMARKS

Claims 1-6, 8, 10, 12-17, and 43-47 are pending. Claims 7, 9, 11, and 18-42 are currently canceled. Claims 1, 43, 44, and 45 are currently amended. Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Rejections Under 35 USC § 102(i)

Claims 1-6, 8, 10, 12-13, 15, 17, 43-45, and 47 are rejected under 35 USC §102 (b) as being anticipated by Abele et al. (US 5,403,311).

The invention as now claimed in claim 1 is a catheter comprising a catheter body, a probe, a seal within the inner lumen, a single point electrode located at the distal end of the catheter body, and an electrical stimulus delivered through the single point electrode and the probe.

Abele et al. discloses a mapping/electro-coagulation catheter including a probe 66 which forms a first electrode. The second electrode is a ring electrode at the distal end of the catheter. Abele et al. is silent with regard to at least a single point electrode. For at least this reason, Abele et al. does not anticipate the invention as now claimed.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the above rejection be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 USC § 103(a)

Claim 14 is rejected under 35 USC§103(a) as being unpatentable over Abele et al. in view of Mullier (US 5,807, 395).

Abele et al. has been discussed above as applied to the invention as now claimed. Mullier discloses a catheter having a distal tip electrode. Mullier is silent with regard to the elements of the invention that are not disclosed in Abele

et al. For at least this reason, the above combination of references does not disclose or suggest the invention as now claimed.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the above rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 16 is rejected under 35 USC§103(a) as being unpatentable over Abele et al. in view of Epstein et al. (US 6,835,193).

Abele et al. has been discussed above as applied to the invention as now claimed. Epstein et al. disclose a catheter having a tip portion having one or more sensing electrodes. And a needle for injection therapeutic agent. Epstein et al. is silent with regard to the elements of the invention that are not disclosed in Abele et al. Epstein et al. is silent with regard to the elements of the invention that are not disclosed in Abele et al. For at least this reason, the above combination of references does not disclose or suggest the invention as now claimed.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the above rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 46 is rejected under 35 USC§103(a) as being unpatentable over Abele et al. in view of Moorhead (US 5,147,332).

Abele et al. has been discussed above as applied to the invention as now claimed. Moorehead discloses a multi-valve catheter. Moorehead is silent with regard to the elements of the invention that are not disclosed in Abele et al. For at least this reason, the above combination of references does not disclose or suggest the invention as now claimed.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the above rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Examination and reconsideration of the application as amended is requested.

Should any issues remain outstanding, the Examiner is urged to telephone the undersigned to expedite prosecution. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiencies and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 13-2546.

Respectfully submitted,

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